

Jan 26, 1927.

My Dear Mrs. Wilkes:-

Thats a fine letter, and I am glad you are interested in the Spanish Songs. The First Book is in the second half of its seventh thousand, already. I have not been able yet to get out the Second Book having been sick and absent. But I live in hope to bring it out this Spring.

The only real way to learn to pronounce Spanish is by talking it with people of the tongue. I am ashamed to say that I don't know of a good text book, though I am sure there are such, but I would suggest that you write to Senor Jose Padin; % D.C. Heath & Co., 239 W 39th St. New York. He can commend you to the best there is. I donot know about the Spanish records; but I do know that it would be cheaper and more effective to hire some little Spanish boy or girl to come and talk with you.

With best wishes.

Sincerely Yours,



6151 Tyndall Avenue  
Riverdale-on-Hudson, N.Y.C.  
New York.

Mr. Charles F. Hummis  
200 East Ave. 43  
Los Angeles, Cal.

My dear Mr. Hummis,

I few years ago I "discovered" your collection of "Spanish Songs of Old California" (First Book) and have had much happiness since. I saw the play "The Dove" and heard the song "Es el amor Mariposa" during one of the acts. I am not Spanish and have never had the good fortune to live in a Spanish atmosphere but I just love Spanish music instinctively. Besides, the songs seem to be suited to my voice. Well, I pestered all the friendly music Salesmen here (many know much less than I do) and finally on a second visit to Schermer's I heard that the song was not sung by the heroine but a singer in the wings and that I could find the song in the "Hummis Collection"!

I have recently begun to study singing seriously and my teacher, who coaches many celebrities, is delighted with my choice — "Adios Adios Amores" and "Es el amor Mariposa".



I have collected quite a few Spanish Songs and have seven or eight book collections. There seems to be so little, tho - especially of the shorter type of song. I have learned of many thru the great artists like de Begorza, Tito Ruffo and Schipa. Have you published a "Second Book"? Or anything else similar? Can you please suggest anything else?

I am afraid I am imposing upon you but may I ask another question (your friendly and enthusiastic "Lovers of our best Romance" has encouraged me to ask you to help me) Can you recommend a good book or way for me to learn correct Spanish pronunciation. I have been struggling alone with the little in high school texts that are really Spanish grammars and very meagre. I know no Spanish people and have not the opportunity of visiting Spanish cities.

I have had a little help from my husband who studied a bit of Spanish in college many years ago. It seems to me I have heard of records in Spanish - the Cortina records. But no one seems to know anything about them except one young lady at Aeolian Hall who did not know where these records may be obtained but said they were about sixty dollars.

Perhaps all this will suggest an idea to you. Has anyone published a small book - dictionary-like with "approximate pronunciations" in Spanish like <sup>your</sup> page in Spanish Songs of Old California?

May I thank you and again tell you how happy I am in my



find. I remember an old  
saying in my copy book  
which said "Patience and  
perseverance will accomplish  
wonders."

Very sincerely yours  
Lucy K. Wilkes

January 19, 1927.